
TRIBAL ART AND CULTURE

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INTRODUCTION

With an excruciating and rich ancient record, India is home to craftsmanship and culture. Old-fashioned craftsmanship has been passed down from one age to another and is a practice by artists and artisans known as the cultural hub. The tribals are a fundamental piece of the Indian populace. With their segregated environment, economy, society, beliefs, and long relationship with the Indian culture, the study of tribals has been one of the most seasoned anthropological concerns. The beginning of human sciences will be followed by the endeavours made by European homesteaders, voyagers, adventurers, and ministers to handle and portray the methods of the lifetime of the local individuals they found in India.

Tribal arts are not for art's sake but an essential part of their lives. It is the expression given to the art form of nature, the mountains, the forests, the rivers, animals, etc.; culture Culture is the learned social behaviour transmitted from one generation to a different and is distinctive for every culture. In simpler words, everything developed by humans and related to a society or group of related people at a specific point of your time is often considered a part of that particular society, which the members of that particular society automatically gain. Performing art forms are an integral part of the intangible cultural heritage of a community. Achieving the art tradition of a community reflects its culture and sometimes even becomes the identity of a specific community. Thus, it is often said that performing art may be a creative (artistic) output of human skill within the sort of public performance within the live front audience for entertainment, like Dance, Drama, Music, Singing, Puppetry, Storytelling, etc. Tribal performing.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

- The main objective of this research paper is to study the various customs and traditions of the Indian tribes through their arts and their respective culture.
- The significance of the present paper arises from the fact that tribal cultures, traditions, and paintings need to be preserved.

- This paper forms the base by studying various tribal arts from different states, such as Odisha, Bihar, Jharkhand, and Madhya Pradesh.
- To spread the knowledge of tribal art and culture.

CONCEPT OF TRIBE

- In contemporary India, "tribe" has minimal social ramifications. It's turned into the watchword of the political cognizance of a particular gathering inside the country. Like caste cognizance or religion cognizance, tribal cognizance is also becoming a tool for social integration.
- Tribal people are also like ordinary people, they are no different from others, but most of us are still unable to accept the fact.
- A progression of the ideas was presented by the sooner Anthropologists like Morgan, Tylor, Perry, Rivers, and Lowie to conceal a gathering alluded to as a clan. These definitions are, in no way, shape or form total. These expert anthropologists haven't been prepared to foster a gathering of exact files to order bunches as ancestral 'or' non-ancestral. The term alludes to regional networks living inside the general disconnection in lower regions and woodlands.

TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT VIA ART AND CULTURE

The tribal economy is the best development representation and requirement to be replicated anywhere. so in this way, the traditional grasp has been revised through organizing forums, where people with expertized knowledge in classic art .it is through these elements that artists narrate their stories and express their day to day activities through their art, and their art and culture attract foreigners and this is also a significant contribution in development

- **PRESENTING ART IN BAIGA CULTURE:-**Presenting art in the central part of the folk art found among the baigas. This is the recreated source of enjoyment and entertainment. They celebrate through fairs and festivals on their special occasions and life cycle rituals. the biagas sing and dance with their traditional musical instruments¹
- **GOND ART IN MADHYA PRADESH:-**The Godavari origin of Madhya Pradesh includes places like Madla, Balaghat, chhindwara,seoni, and shadhol producing the

¹ [Amit soni],[A Critical Appraisal of Performing Art Culture of Baiga Tribe in Central India],[97],[99][(2007)].

famous form of art called the Gond art. The term “gond” has been coined from the Dravidian word “kond”, which means the green mountain. The artists use natural colours like charcoal, plant sap, coloured soil, cow dung, and leaves. Dots and lines form a piece of Gond art that further imparts a sense of movement to the still images.²

- **MADHUBANI ART IN MITHILA:**-This art is stunning and colourful with religious and environmental pictures. This art can be done with specific tools, such as twigs, brush-pens, leaves, fingers, nib-pens, and matchsticks, using naturally extracted colours and dies. It is more about coordinating different geometrical shapes.
- **WARLI ART IN MAHARASHTRA:**- Warli art is made by the warli tribals .this art is among the finest example of the folk style of drawings using geometrical shapes. This is a straightforward and attractive art form. Only two colours were used in this art that is red and white.
- **SAURA ART IN ORRISA:**-This art is made by Saura tribals. This is mainly similar to the warli art. This art represents the people's everyday routine like villages, farms, birds, animals, etc. The only difference between warli and Saura art is the geometrical shapes.
- **BHIL ART BY BHIL TRIBES:**-Bhil tribe is the 2nd largest tribe in India and mainly lives in western and central India. This art is made with dots and vibrant colours. Vivid and vibrant colours fill the painting, primarily depicting elements of nature like animal trees, cosmos., etc. ruler activities like Haunting ploughing, framing and exuberance in festivals, like dancing and singing, all depicting social bonds and cohesion and expression in these paintings. Tribal art is one of its kind.

In the Indian context, efforts are made to seek out common denominators if not a standard definition of the word tribe. The Commissioner for scheduled caste and scheduled tribes has listed eight such standard features in the report of 1952. These are as follows:

- Their abodes are generally in secluded and inaccessible parts of the terrestrial habitats.
- They belong to the three strata, i.e. Negritos, Australoids or Mongoloids.
- In their vernacular language

² © YouTube, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9O4OyMW8z90>

- Profess primitive soul referred to as "Animism during which the worship of ghosts and spirits is that the most vital element,
- Their main occupation is very primitive such as hunting, cleaning and gathering forest goods.
- They are primarily carnivorous, and a few also show cannibalism.
- For clothing, they primarily use tree barks and leaves
- They have nomadic habits like consuming cannabis and dancing
- On the idea of certain universal features contained in various definitions, Majumdar (1958) described the tribe, mentioning that a number of them might define a tribe anywhere.³

"A tribe could also be a gaggle with territorial connection, wedlock, with no specialization of function judged by tribal officers, hereditary or otherwise, united in language or dialect, recognizing social distance with other tribes, caste, with none social praise attaching to them as It does within the caste structure following tribal traditions, belief and customs illiberal of naturalization of ideas from foreign sources, especially conscious of homogeneity of ethnic and territorial integration."

TRIBES DISTRIBUTION IN INDIA

- India is home to the majority of tribes in the world.
- Albeit, there are 537 tribal communities in India, only 528 of them are considered tribes.
- 8% of the total population of India consists of STs
- Approximately 80% of the tribes reside in central and western states, and the rest of them belongs to south India.

IDENTIFICATION OF TRIBES ACCORDING TO THEIR CULTURE

- Added to the present is the authoritative issue of the recognizable proof of tribes for planning and subsequent award of consent bound to the booked clans under the Constitution. The constitution framers ensured specific privileges to the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes in portrayal, administrations, schooling, etc.
- Communitarian basis of landholding "a tribe may be a territorial group."

³ [vol.3],[Dr S.T. Das],[Life Style: Indian Tribes: Locational Practice][(Gyan Publishing House, January 1, 1989)]

- Poor Literacy and Education among tribals - albeit a large portion of the tribal individuals of India are agriculturists. Yet, their economy stays at the means level accordingly, the tribals at own, apply little work to manage the cost of appropriate instruction.⁴
- There is a standard dialect where people can share their views and ideologies, strengthening the inter-relationship.
- They always need protection from infiltration and infusion, so they elect a chief who acts as a political leader to protect the whole tribe.
- Common Culture: - Common culture of a tribe springs out from the sense of unity, common language, common religion, and customary political organization.
- There is immense importance in maintaining their kinship as they marry within the community; marrying outside their clan is wholly forbidden.
- Sense of Equality: Tribes are not divided irrespective of race, caste, creed, sex, or social and economic background. Everyone is equal.
- However, we can observe some division, like in the case of tribe king or tribe leader, as they enjoy certain powers and have a better social station.

TRADITIONAL TRIBAL DANCE

Dance is motion or moves of the body in a rhythmic way; this is the way to express ideas, feelings, and emotions through different gestures in music.

- **DUSSEHRA DANCE:-** this is for young girls and boys eligible for marriage, and this is an opportunity to select their available matches through this dance. The dance is named after the dashehra Vijay – dashmi, but this dance is not directly related to Hinduism; this is the oldest dance tradition of the biagas . The males and females were separated according to their dance troupes.⁵
- **KARMA DANCE:-** this dance is held from the date of Vijayadashami to the start of the rainy season in the dindhori district in Madhya Pradesh. This is following every generation .they keep on dancing and following the music beats or rhythm of the instrument.⁶

⁴ [B. Ranganatha],[Tribal Identity and the implications for Political and Cultural Development: A Sociological Analysis][All rights reserved][27],[32-36][(April2014)].

⁵ Amit, supra note 1, at 99

⁶ Amit, supra note 2, at 100.

- REENA DANCE:- this dance is mainly for women. this dance is performed on the occasion of Deepawali. During the dance, they put a dauri in the centre of a bamboo basket, in the centre .and the bamboo basket is filled with rice and a wooden parrot.
- SAUWA DANCE:- this dance is performed on the occasion of gaura vivah in October and November. these days, they dance in the daytime and sing gaura geet at night with great delight. They divided into two groups, and the divided groups were circular and faced each other. They pay a visit to every house, and in front of these houses, they give performances like singing and dancing. they are gifted in return with grains and bid farewell.⁷
- SAILA DANCE:- this dance is mainly for men and is done by holding sticks in their hands. These dancing groups are known as "sailhar".it is also in competition in nature .groups were going to the other villages and dancing. And other villages dance parties also come and dance.

CONCLUSION

Thus, tribals' lives are full of art and sincerely follow their culture through dancing, singing, painting, and community games .they increase harmony in social life and help remove the negativity and monotony in their social life .with the changing environment of society, they change their life standers. The visible change in their cultural life will negatively impact cultural tradition. They were mainly dominated by tribals of Indian states brimming with rich and varied cultures. The amalgamation of various tribal groups, each with its history and evolution, has made up every state of India. The condition of a vibrant and multidimensional culture. The culture comprises a harmonious blend of tribals and Adivasi, Hindus, Christians, Buddhists, Muslims, Sikhs and Jains. The most popular folk songs are Relo songs sung by children's Leha, Dhankul, and Chait parah songs. The most popular and the most prominent dance forms are the Matki and phag. Gaur, a unique form of wedding dance, is popular among the various tribes of India. The tribes celebrated various festivals which originated from the methodology. While some festivals make the end season, few others worship local gods. The celebration of these festivals brings people together through the activities like dancing, singing engaging in community games, thereby making the state distinctive in art and culture. Peoples also believe that these paintings are the mode of protection from the level co-existing with the

⁷ Amit , supra note 1, at 100.

gond art .it is the pithora art from which find its roots in cave paintings from the thousand years ago .prevalent amongst the Bhil tribe.

The pithora art form holds great religious significance. The creation of the artwork structure involved religious ceremonies accompanied by community singing and dancing; be it the depiction of wedding festivals or any form of celebration, the producer celebrates the different realities of rural living.

“Indian art and culture is the most complex and colourful culture on the planet . the way of dressing, and their music and dance –everything changes every fifty or hundred kilometres in our country –India”.

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